

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00756 100319Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ORM-02 DHA-02 IO-13 AID-05 MCT-01 /078 W  
-----100646Z 012086 /17

R 100120Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2353  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0756

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS PP ID  
SUBJ: UN REP COMMENTS ON IRIANESE

REF: PORT MORESBY 0736

1. UNDP RESREP UNWIN, WHO IS ACTING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF  
UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS  
ABOUT IRIANESE WHO HAVE CROSSED BORDER INTO PNG.

A. OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED NUMBER OF IRIANESE WHO HAVE  
RECENTLY CROSSED BORDER IS ABOUT 400, BUT UNOFFICIAL  
FIGURE IS 2,000. THERE IS SOME DISPUTE WHETHER ALL OF  
THE LARGER FIGURE ARE REALLY REFUGEES OR WHETHER SOME ARE  
IRIANESE WHO HAVE COME INTO PNG FOR HUNTING OR FISHING IN  
TRADITIONAL AREAS.

B. AN AGREEMENT EXISTS BETWEEN GPNG AND GOI TO EFFECT  
THAT GPNG WILL REQUIRE IRIANESE WHO CROSS BORDER TO RETURN.  
DFAT WAS TRYING TO IMPLEMENT THIS AGREEMENT IN EARLY MAY  
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BEFORE UNWIN STEPPED INTO PICTURE AND TOOK MATTER TO  
RPRIME MINISTER SOMARE. PRIME MINISTER ADOPTED STRONG  
STAND THAT NO ONE WOULD BE FORCED TO RETURN, AND NOW  
FOREIGN MINISTER AND NATIONAL BORDER COMMITTEE HAVE  
SWUNG AROUND TO SUPPORT THIS POLICY. UNWIN FEELS  
CONVINCED THAT NONE OF THE IRIANESE WILL BE FORCED TO  
RETURN AGAINST THEIR WISHES. HE THINKS THEY MAY TRICKEL

BACK EVENTUALLY BY THEIR OWN CHOICE.

C. UNWIN VISITED THE GROUP OF 203 IRIANESE AT SUKI, WESTERN PROVINCE. HE SAID THERE WERE MEN, WOMEN CHILDREN AND OLD PEOPLE IN THE GROUP. HE SAID THEY TOLD HIM THEY HAD BEEN A LITTLE ROUGHED UP IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR VOTING IN THE INDONESIAN ELECTION (UNWIN THOUGHT THAT WAS NOTHING SERIOUS) BUT BECAME ALARMED WHEN INDONESIAN OFFICIALS BEGAN TAKING THEIR NAMES AND DECIDED TO GET OUT.

D. UNWIN ALSO VISITED ANOTHER GROUP OF IRIANESE IN WESTERN PROVINCE, 15 IN NUMBER, WHO WERE WEARING SHIRT PATCHES INDICATING THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN A GREATER MELANESIAN ORGANIZATION. THIS GROUP, CONSISTING OF YOUNG MEN AND BOYS, BROUGHT A LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER SOMARE CALLING FOR A UNION OF IRIAN JAYA AND PNG. UNWIN SAID THIS WAS A RATHER STRANGE GROUP WHICH DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE A CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT TO DO ONCE THEY HAD CROSSED THE BORDER.

E. UNWIN SAYS HE MAY VISIT OTHER GROUPS OF IRIANESE IN PNG EVENTUALLY, BUT HAS NO PLANS TO DO SO IN NEAR FUTURE. HE SAID GENEVA HAD OFFERED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE FROM UNHCR'S OFFICE, BUT UNWIN TOLD THEM HE DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE NECESSARY.

2. UNWIN THINKS IRIANESE REFUGEES WILL CONTINUE TO CROSS BORDER UNLESS INDONESIAN TREATMENT OF IRAIN JAYA IMPROVES. HE SEES THIS AS A CONTINUING PROBLEM FOR PNG.  
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3. UNWIN ALSO SAID THAT INDO AMBASSADOR ROEDJITO'S HEALTH HAD SUDDENLY DETERIORATED TO POINT WHERE HE HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED IN PORT MORESBY INSTEAD OF RETURNING TO JAKARTA AS PLANNED.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** UN REP COMMENTS ON IRIANESE  
**TAGS:** PINS, SREF, PP, ID  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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